

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION
OLYMPIA, WA**

To: All Providers
Managed Care Plans
Regional Administrators
CSO Administrators

Memorandum No.: 02-71 MAA
Issued: September 16, 2002

From: Douglas Porter, Assistant Secretary
Medical Assistance Administration

For more information, call:
1-800-562-6188

Subject: Correct Coding Initiative

The purpose of this memorandum is to notify providers as of January 2002 the Medical Assistance Administration (MAA) began evaluating and implementing Medicare's National Correct Coding Initiative (CCI). CCI changes could affect reimbursements to providers for CPT™ and HCPCS procedure codes.

Implementation of CCI editing system

CCI was created by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to promote correct coding by physicians and providers and to ensure that appropriate payments are made for provider services.

CCI coding policies are based on the following:

- The American Medical Association's (AMA) Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) manual;
- National and local policies and edits;
- Coding guidelines developed by national professional societies;
- Analysis and review of standard medical and surgical practices; and
- Review of current coding practices.

CCI coding policies do not supercede MAA's current Washington Administrative Code (WAC) regarding coverage and reimbursement policies or MAA Billing Instructions and Numbered Memoranda.

How can I learn more about CCI?

To learn more about CCI, go to:

- ✓ <http://cms.hhs.gov/> [Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services]
- ✓ <http://cms.hhs.gov/contractors/bestpractices/ccitrain.pdf> [Understanding the Correct Coding Initiative]
- ✓ <http://cms.hhs.gov/medlearn/ncci.asp> [CMS' Frequently Asked Questions online]

To order the CCI Edits Manual, go to <http://www.ntis.gov/help/subscriptions.asp?loc=7-8-0> or contact the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) at 1-800-363-2068 or (703) 605-6060.

CPT is a trademark of the American Medical Association (AMA).